

41574. BARYXYLUM INERME (Roxb.) Pierre. Cæsalpiniaceæ.*(Peltophorum ferrugineum Benth.)*

From Littleriver, Fla. Presented by Mr. Charles T. Simpson. Received December 3, 1915.

"A large, quick-growing, symmetrical tree, with a spreading top and fine graceful feathery foliage, indigenous to Ceylon and Malaya. The young leaves and shoots are covered with a brown velvet tomentum, from which the tree takes its specific name. The tree flowers twice a year at irregular seasons, some specimens being in blossom while others by its side are in ripe fruit. The flowers are rusty yellow, sweet scented, and borne in large erect panicles. Trimen, in his Flora of Ceylon, stated: 'It is a magnificent sight when in full bloom.' It is specially suited to dry districts, but also thrives to perfection in the moist region up to 1,800 feet." (*MacMillan, Handbook of Tropical Gardening and Planting*, 2d ed., p. 299.)

See S. P. I. Nos. 34330 and 38655 for previous introductions.

41575. ROYSTONEA FLORIDANA Cook. Phœnicaceæ.**Florida royal palm.**

The royal palm of Florida is commonly referred to *Oreodoxa regia*, though with very doubtful propriety. The branches of the inflorescence are much longer and more lax than those of the species of Cuba and Porto Rico, from which they also differ in the frequent development of tertiary branches, in this respect resembling *Roystonea oleracea*. The fruits do not resemble those of *Roystonea oleracea*, but are closely similar to those of the other species, though somewhat smaller and more nearly spherical. The Florida trees are from 28 to 35 meters high and occasionally as high as 45 meters, while the royal palms of Cuba and Porto Rico seldom exceed 18 meters. Mr. Charles T. Simpson, of the United States National Museum, states that the palms of southwestern Florida lack the conspicuous bulge so characteristic in the trunks of the Porto Rican trees and that they grow almost in reach of tidewater, while the natural habitat of the Porto Rican species is evidently the limestone hills. In view of these differences it seems preferable to treat the Florida royal palm as a distinct species, for which the name *Roystonea floridana* is proposed. (Adapted from O. F. Cook, *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club*, p. 554.)

See S. P. I. No. 9731 and 17060 for previous introductions.

41576. TERMINALIA CATAPPA L. Combretaceæ. Malabar almond.

From Littleriver, Fla. Presented by Mr. Charles T. Simpson. Received December 3, 1915.

A handsome deciduous tree with branches in horizontal whorls, large alternate leaves, clustered toward the ends of the branches and usually turning scarlet before falling, and an edible almondlike fruit.

"A very common tree in Guam, often growing near the shore, but also found inland. The kernels of the fruit are of a fine almondlike consistency and flavor. The crows (*Corvus kubaryi*) are very fond of them, and the natives eat them as delicacies, either fresh or candied. The bark and leaves are astringent and contain tannin. In India they are mixed with iron salts to form a black pigment, with which the natives in certain localities color their teeth and make ink.